

**Amendments to the Claims:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for searching a list of available programs from an electronic program guide, comprising the steps of:

~~obtaining a list of available programs;~~

generating a ~~user~~-query in response to a command by a user, wherein the user command comprises a request to generate program recommendations from the available programs;

said ~~user~~-query specifying at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, wherein at least one of said attribute-value pairs is selected based on at least one a prior query-search that has been executed by the user to obtain program recommendations;  
and

comparing attributes of said available programs to said attribute-value pairs specified by in said query to identify programs from the available programs satisfying said query.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said generating step is performed automatically in response to said user command by accessing a historical search database that indicates a number of times that each attribute-value pair appears in the at least one prior search.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said user command is provided by a single button click.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one of said attribute-value pairs selected based on the at least one a prior search is obtained using the top-N search terms, [[()]] where N is a positive number, [[()]] that have been previously used in a query for said attribute.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of receiving one or more default terms for a given attribute that supercede said corresponding top-N search terms.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of decomposing said query to identify attribute-value pairs contained in said query and incrementing a counter indicating a number of times each of said attribute-value pairs appears in a user query.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing a query of an electronic program guide, comprising the steps of:

receiving a command from a user initiating said query;

retrieving at least one one or more prior query search of the electronic program guide searches that ~~have~~ has been executed by said user; and

generating said query to include ~~comprised of~~ at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, wherein at least one of said attribute-value pairs is selected based on said at least one prior query search searches.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said generating step is performed automatically in response to said user command by accessing a historical search database that indicates a number of times that each attribute-value pair appears in the at least one prior search.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said user command is provided by a single button click.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said at least one of said attribute-value pairs selected based on said at least one prior search queries is obtained using the top-N search terms, [[([)]where N is a positive number,[[D)]] that have been previously used in a query for said attribute.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of receiving one or more default terms for a given attribute that supercede said corresponding top-N search terms.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising the steps of decomposing said query to identify attribute-value pairs contained in said query and incrementing a counter indicating a number of times each of said attribute-value pairs appears in a ~~user~~-query.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing a query of an electronic program guide, wherein said query is comprised of at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, comprising the steps of:

receiving a command from a user initiating said query;

retrieving the top-N, ~~[[()]]~~ where N is greater than or equal to zero, ~~[[()]]~~ attribute-value pairs for each possible attribute based on a number of times said attribute-value pairs have previously been utilized in at least one prior a query-search that has been executed by the user to obtain program recommendations; and

constructing said query with said top-N attribute-value pairs for each possible attribute unless a default attribute-value pair has been specified for a given attribute.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said constructing step is performed automatically in response to said user command by accessing a historical search database that indicates a number of times that each attribute-value pair appears in the at least one prior search.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said user command is provided by a single button click.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of receiving one or more default terms for a given attribute that supercede said corresponding top-N search terms.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of decomposing said query to identify attribute-value pairs contained in said query and incrementing a counter indicating a number of times each of said attribute-value pairs appears in a ~~user~~ query.

18. (Currently Amended) A system for searching a list of available programs from an electronic program guide, comprising:

a memory for storing computer readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to execute the computer readable code to:

~~obtain a list of available programs;~~

generate a ~~user~~ query in response to a command by a user, wherein the user command comprises a request to generate program recommendations from the available programs;

said ~~user~~ query specifying at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, wherein at least one of said attribute-value pairs is selected based on at least one a prior query search that has been executed by the user to obtain program recommendations; and

compare attributes of said available programs to said attribute-value pairs specified by in said query to identify programs from the available programs satisfying said query.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for constructing a query of an electronic program guide, comprising:

a memory for storing computer readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to execute the computer readable code to:

receive a command from a user initiating said query;

retrieve ~~one or more~~ at least one prior query search of the electronic program guide searches that has have been executed by said user; and

generate said query comprised of at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, wherein at least one of said attribute-value pairs is selected based on said at least one prior query search searches.

20. (Currently Amended) A system for constructing a query of an electronic program guide, wherein said query is comprised of at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, comprising:

a memory for storing computer readable code; and

a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to execute the computer readable code to:

receive a command from a user initiating said query;

retrieve the top-N, [[()]] where N is greater than or equal to zero, [[()]] attribute-value pairs for each possible attribute based on a number of times said attribute-value pairs have previously been utilized in at least one prior a query search of the electronic program guide that has been executed by the user; and

construct said query with said top-N attribute-value pairs for each possible attribute unless a default attribute-value pair has been specified for a given attribute.

21. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for searching a list of available programs from an electronic program guide, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code ~~means~~ embodied thereon, said computer readable program code ~~means~~ being executable to perform a method comprising:

~~a step to obtain a list of available programs;~~

~~a step to generate~~ generating a user query in response to a command by a user, wherein the user command comprises a request to generate program recommendations from the available programs;

said user query specifying at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, wherein at least one of said attribute-value pairs is selected based on at least one a prior query search that has been executed by the user to obtain program recommendations; and

~~a step to compare~~ comparing attributes of said available programs to said attribute-value pairs specified by in said query to identify programs from the available programs satisfying said query.

22. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for constructing a query of an electronic program guide, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code ~~means~~ embodied thereon, said computer readable program code ~~means~~ being executable to perform a method comprising:

~~a step to receive~~ receiving a command from a user initiating said query;

~~a step to retrieve~~ retrieving at least one ~~or more~~ prior query search of the electronic program guide that has been executed by said user; and

~~a step to generate-generating~~ said query comprised of at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, wherein at least one of said attribute-value pairs is selected based on said at least one prior search query-searches.

23. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for constructing a query of an electronic program guide, wherein said query is comprised of at least one attribute-value pair for each of a plurality of program attributes, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code ~~means-embodied thereon~~, said computer readable program code ~~means-being executable to perform a method~~ comprising:

~~a step to receive~~ receiving a command from a user initiating said query;

~~a step to retrieve~~ retrieving the top-N, ~~[[()]]~~ where N is greater than or equal to zero ~~[[D]]~~ attribute-value pairs for each possible attribute based on a number of times said attribute-value pairs have previously been utilized in at least one prior a query-search of the electronic program guide that has been executed by the user; and

~~a step to construct~~ constructing said query with said top-N attribute-value pairs for each possible attribute unless a default attribute-value pair has been specified for a given attribute.